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Message Text

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47
ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 TRSE-00 AID-20 EB-11 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /089 R

DRAFTED BY AF: RSSMITH: LS
4/14/73 EXT. 29478
APPROVED BY AF: RSSMITH
TREASURY - MR. GORDON (SUBS)
AID - MR. ELLIS (INFO)
EB - MR. BENEDICT (SUBS)
AF/ W - MR. BISHOP (SUBS)
---------- 073127
P R 141842 Z APR 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 070292

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIN, GH
SUBJECT: GHANA DEBT NEGOTIATIONS
REF: SMITH/ FLOWEREE TELCON APRIL 13

1. THIS IS TO CONFIRM REFTELCON THAT YOU TAKE MARTIN LEQUESNE UP ON HIS MARCH 6 ORAL OFFER TO US TO HAVE MRS. HESTER BOOTHROYD OF UK TREASURY AND HIMSELF COME OVER HERE TO DISCUSS WITH IBRD AND USG REPS THE NEXT STEPS ON RESPONSE TO GHANA' S LATEST DEBT SETTLEMENT TERMS. IN VIEW OF GHANA' S RESPONSE AND LATEST SOUNDINGS BY CHAUFOURNIER OF IBRD, WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE TERRIBLY USEFUL IF COULD TAKE PLACE HERE AT LEAST A WEEK IN ADVANCE OF PROPOSED CREDITORS' MEETINGS IN LONDON MAY 7-9. FYI NOT ONLY WOULD SUCH INFORMAL MEETING HELP SET TONE FOR CREDITORS' MEETINGS, BUT WOULD FRANKLY ASSIST USG IN ARRIVING AT OUR OWN POSITION. HENCE THE NEED FOR LEQUESNE- BOOTHROYD VISIT HERE WELL IN ADVANCE LONDON MEETINGS. END FYI.

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2. YOU SHOULD REMIND LEQUESNE THAT IT WAS HE WHO SUGGESTED THIS APPROACH WHEN SMITH AND FLOWEREE MET IN HIS OFFICE ON MARCH 6. THEY DID NOT REACT DIRECTLY TO IT AT TIME, BUT WENT ON TO SUGGEST NEED FOR UK- FRG- DUTCH- USG MEETING IN ADVANCE OF SESSION OF ALL TEN CREDITORS. WE HAVE SINCE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF THREE- WAY MEETING HERE WITH IBRNKAGE IF SUBJECT MATTER LESS DIRECTLY AFFECTED THEIR

INTERESTS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, HE SAID GEOGRAPHIC AREA INVOLVED MIGHT INCLUDE ROMANIA, BULGARIA, YUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA, GREECE AND POSSIBLY HUNGARY; INCLUSION OF NAVAL FORCES WAS NOT ENVISAGED. ASKED WHAT REACTIONS, IF ANY, ROMANIANS HAD RECEIVED FROM OTHERS TO THIS IDEA, MITRAN CLAIMED THAT (A) YUGOSLAVS WERE SYMPATHETIC; (B) BUL- GARIANS WOULD DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT IF ALLOWED BY SOVIETS; (C) THERE WAS NO DIRECT INDICATION OF SOVIET VIEWS, BUT IT WOULD HELP WITH SOVIETS IF ROMANIANS COULD POINT TO POTENTIAL US SUPPORT; AND (D) SOUNDINGS (NATURE OF WHICH HE DID NOT DESCRIBE) WITH GREEKS AND TURKS HAVE ELICITED SOME INTEREST. (COMMENT: THUS, OMISSION OF TURKEY FROM ABOVE LIST MAY HAVE BEEN OVERSIGHT ON HIS PART.)

3. DEPTOFF MADE CLEAR THAT HE NOT IN POSITION TO GIVE ANY SPECIFIC REACTION AND DID NOT PROMISE ANY, BUT RE- HEARSED WELL- KNOWN US OPPOSITION TO DISCUSSION OF MBFR ISSUES AT CSCE, UNDERLINED IMPORTANCE OF DEVOTING BEST EFFORTS OF ALL CONCERNED TO EARLY BEGINNING OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS FOCUSSED ON CENTRAL EUROPE, INCLUDING HUNGARY, AND POSED QUESTION WHETHER RAISING BALKAN MBFR PROPOSAL AT THIS TIME COULD IN FACT BE EXPECTED TO BE " EASIER", GIVEN SUGGESTED LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.

4. OTHER CSCE MATTERS: IN REVIEWING PROGRESS TO DATE AT MPT , MITRAN ADDED FOLLOWING POINTS OF SOME INTEREST.

(A) NON- USE OF FORCE. GOR REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT

WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A CLEAR SOVIET INTIMATION THAT FURTHER ROMANIAN EFFORTS TO HIGHLIGHT NON- USE OF FORCE IN MANDATE ON PRINCIPLES OF INTER- STATE RELATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOVIETS TO POINT TO VALIDITY OF ENEMY STATES PROVISIONS OF UN CHARTER, WHICH ROMANIANS FEAR COULD BE USED AS A LEGAL ARGUMENT IN JUSTIFICATION OF ANY

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EVENTUAL SOVIET INTERVENTION IN ROMANIA. GOR HAS NO DE-
SIRE TO UNDERMINE FOUR - POWER RIGHTS IN BERLIN AND
GERMANY, BUT HOPES MANDATE LANGUAGE CAN BE DEVISED WHICH UILL
NOT IMPLY RIGHT TO MOVE FORCES INTO COUNTRIES WHERE THEY
NOT ALREADY PRESENT.

(B) PACE OF MPT. WITH ABOVE CLEARLY IN MIND, ROMANIANS
WOULD PREFER SOME DELAY IN OPENING OF CSCE TO ACCEPTANCE
OF PRINCIPLES LANGUAGE ALL IMPLICATIONS OF WHICH NOT
CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.

(C) PERMANENT MACHINERY. ROMANIANS BELIEVE THAT SOVIET
INTEREST IN PERMANENT MACHINERY IS FLAGGING, BOTH

BECAUSE OF PRIMARY SOVIET INTEREST IN GAINING LANGUAGE
THEY SEEK FROM CSCE ON INVIOLABILITY OF FRONTIERS AND
BECAUSE OF GROWING DOUBTS AS TO BALANCE OF BENEFIT IN
SUCH MACHINERY. GOR HOPES US WILL RECOGNIZE THE OPPOR-
TUNITIES PRESENTED BY ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT
MACHINERY BEFORE ITS PROSPECTS FADE DUE TO SOVIET CHANGE
OF HEART.

(D) INVIOLABILITY OF FRONTIERS. ROMANIANS INTERPRET
MENDELEVICH (SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE) STATEMENT AT MPT TO
EFFECT THAT INVIOLABILITY DOES NOT EXCLUDE PEACEFUL
CHANGES OF BORDERS AS SIGNAL TO JAPANESE AND POSSIBLY
CHINESE, AND IN NO WAY MEANT TO BE APPLICABLE TO EUROPE.

(E) US ROLE AT MPT. GOR IS CONCERNED THAT GENERALLY
LOW POSTURE ASSUMED BY US AT MPT MAY REFLECT DECREASED
INTEREST IN USING CSCE TO PROMOTE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES
FOR INDEPENDENT ACTION BY EE' S. (DEPTOFF REASSURED HIM
ON THIS SCORE, NOTING CURRENT ROMANIAN PROFILE AT MPT
SEEMINGLY LOWER THAN AT OUTSET.)
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5. COMMENT: MITRAN, THOUGH NORMALLY WELL- INFORMED, HAS
ON OCCASION BEEN RATHER FREE- WHEELING IN HIS COMMENTS,
WHICH HAVE NOT ALWAYS REFLECTED GOR LINE.

6. IF ADDRESSEES THIS TELEGRAM APPROACHED BY GOR
REPRESENTATIVES ON " BALKAN MBFR", RESPONSE SHOULD
BE EMPHATIC NEGATIVE ALONG LINES PARA 3 ABOVE. ROGERS

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